Pam.
Biog.

Jones.

MRS. JOHN R. JONES.

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Maud Rischer Jones was born in Western Pennsylvania, near Pittsburg, in 1877. She was the fourth child in a family of eleven and grew up in the English Lutheran Church, General Synod, with which church she united when fourteen years of age. When about seventeen, with her family, she moved to Muncie, Indiana, and there became a member of a Home Mission church where she found many opportunities for service. She taught school two years, after which two more years were spent in Wittenberg College, Springfield, Ohio. This was followed by three more years of teaching in Muncie. She resigned at the spring term of the third year to prepare for her marriage to the Rev. John Reese Jones.

Her first interest in missions came through the mission programs given in her home church when she was quite a young girl. Her childish heart was thrilled by the reports from missionaries in India and Liberia, Africa, where her church had representatives. She was especially im-

pressed by the reports from that fatal part of Africa where one life after another was laid down and where it seemed almost impossible for white women to live. The stories of work done in the slums at home by deaconnesses and others also interested her greatly and when no opportunity offered for going to the foreign field, she thought to take training for such work and labor at home. She earnestly desired to do this work but did not feel the call to make it her life work and so could not conscientiously give such a promise to the Deaconess' Board. Therefore she was teaching until she could independently prepare for it.

In the meantime another was preparing for his life work. The neighborly friendship which had existed between the two young people for some years gradually came to mean a great deal more. When they promised their lives and loves to each other they promised them unitedly to Him to be used wherever He should choose. Receiving their appointment to China, they sailed for that distant land in the autumn of 1905. It was no hardship to live in China when they had each other and His promise, "Lo, I am with you always." Happy indeed, were the twenty-two months of language study that followed, spent in

Nanking in constant companionship, preparation, as they thought, for long years of service together. But God had planned otherwise for them. The gifted young husband's work was done and, while giving bread to the starving during the terrible famine of 1907, Mr. Jones contracted the fatal fever which caused his death. With admirable fortitude, made possible by a beautiful unwavering faith in the God who doeth all things well, the young wife faced this crushing blow, saw her plans broken, her hopes shattered, and took up the burden of service alone. Alone, yet not alone, for the promise still is "Lo, I am with you always."

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